

REMARKS

In response to the Official Action of January 25, 2005 slight amendment has been made to the specification to identify the abbreviations and acronyms GSM and Iu as used in the specification, as well as to amend the acronym TDMA to TDM with appropriate explanation thereof. No new matter is presented as explained below. Furthermore, Figure 2 has been amended in a manner requested in view of the objection to the drawings and claims 1-4, 14, 19 and 21 have been amended in a manner which is believed to distinguish all of the claims of the present invention over the cited art. New claims 27 and 28 are presented directed to a gateway device corresponding to the gateway device described in the telecommunications network and for similar reasons, is believed to be distinguished over the art. Support for newly submitted claim 27 is found in the originally submitted Figures 1 and 2, as well as set forth in the original specification, including page 7, line 19 through page 8, line 17. Support for new claim 28 is found in the original specification at page 8, lines 1-4. Support for the amended language in claims 1 and 21 is found in Figure 2 with the direct connection between access network and the gateway device via the first interface. Support is also found in the original specification at page 5, lines 9-10.

More particularly, referring now to paragraph 1 of the Official Action, the abbreviations and acronyms GSM and Iu have been explained in the proposed amendment to the specification. No new matter is added since these terms are generally known to those skilled in the wireless communications art. The Iu interface is particularly well-known in the various standards associated with third generation (3G) wireless telephony.

Referring now to paragraph 2 of the Official Action, the drawings are objected to for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. With regard to the claimed "transmission network" which the Examiner states is set forth in claims 2, 3 and 22, the objected language in claims 2 and 3 has been deleted. The claimed phrase "transmission network" is not found in claim 22. As a result, the phrase is no longer used in the claims and therefore no amendment to the drawings is deemed necessary.

With regard to the TDMA network recited in claim 14, the acronym TDMA has been amended to TDM since it is a time division multiplex network and a corresponding correction has

been made in Figure 2. No new matter is presented since a time division multiplex network is well-known in the wireless communications art and also in view of the usage of the acronym TDMA in the originally presented specification and claims. The amendment to TDM is to more appropriately identify the network. The objected "packet network" not being shown with regard to its usage in claim 15 has been amended by presentation of such in Figure 2. No new matter is presented since the packet network was, as set forth in claim 15, presented in the original specification, including page 9, lines 5-7.

Regarding claim 20, it is respectfully submitted that it is a proper dependent claim since it now specifically recites that the first interface is an Iu interface and since claim 1 has been amended to not specify the first interface, as an Iu interface. Therefore, claim 20 adds further limitation to the claim from which it depends.

Referring to paragraph 5 of the Official Action, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-26 are properly enabled by the specification and drawings as originally filed and therefore are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. Section 112, first paragraph. Regarding claims 1 and 21, the Examiner questions how an access network control device controls a gateway device and further questions what control information is necessary to control the gateway device. It is respectfully submitted that a skilled person in the wireless communications art would know how to implement the feature of the access network control device controlling a gateway device through use of control information since such is widely known and disclosed in the wireless communications art, including the third generation (3G) standards as set forth in the third generation partnership project (3GPP) (see <http://www.3gpp.org>). Furthermore, the MGCP protocol is specifically disclosed in the specification for controlling gateway devices as set forth at page 8, lines 19-32.

With regard to the objection concerning claim 19, it should be noted that those of skill in the wireless communications art generally know that a Mobile Switching Center (MSC) is a prior art device. In view of this information, it is also known in the art how an access network control unit can be implemented by a Mobile Switching Center due to the nature of a Mobile Switching Center. See also "*Newton's Telecom Dictionary, 16th Expanded and Updated Edition*" for a definition of MSC and see also "*Introduction to 3G Mobile Communications*" by Juna Korhonen, copyright 2001, Artech House, Inc. As such, it is respectfully submitted that a person skilled in the

telecommunications art would know how to implement the access network control unit set forth in claim 19 by use of a Mobile Switching Center.

Referring now to paragraph 7 of the Official Action, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 20 and 26 as amended are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph. More particularly with regard to claim 2, the claim limitation "first interface is connected via a transmission network directly from said access network to said gateway device" was stated as being unclear. Claim 2 has been amended to delete the statement "via a transmission network" and now states that the first interface is connected directly from said access network to said gateway device. As such, it is believed to be definite.

With regard to claims 20 and 26 and the phrase "an Iu interface", it is respectfully submitted that such an interface is clear as an Iu interface is well-known in the art (see the 3G standards). Such an interface is therefore well-known to those skilled in the art.

Referring now to paragraph 10 of the Official Action, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 4, 10, 20, 21, 23 and 26, as amended, are neither disclosed nor suggested by US patent 6,295,457, Narayanswamy. More particularly, Narayanswamy discloses a system comprising a mobile communication device 108 which transmits data communication signals to a base station 114 of a hybrid base station 112 (see Figure 1). The communication signals are transferred from the base station 114 to a control unit 116 which routes the signals either to a PSTN 119 or to a data network gateway 118 for further transmission to a data network 120. As set forth at column 5, lines 7-24, all signals received by the base station 114 are routed to the control unit 116 which in turn determines whether the received data communication signals are to be routed to the data network 120 or to another destination (such as the PSTN 119). Therefore, in Narayanswamy, all user data are routed from the base station to the control unit 116. In contradistinction thereto, the claimed invention as set forth in amended claim 1 makes clear that the user data are directly transmitted between the access network and the gateway device without being transmitted through the access network control device. Thus, the user data in the present invention is routed directly from the radio access network to the gateway without going through a control unit, unlike Narayanswamy. It is therefore respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is neither anticipated nor suggested by Narayanswamy and is therefore believed to be allowable. In view of amended claim 1 being

allowable, it is also respectfully submitted that dependent claims 2-20 are also further distinguished over Narayanswamy.

Independent method claim 21 has been amended similar to claim 1 and therefore is also believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy. It is respectfully submitted that dependent method claims 22-26 are also further distinguished over Narayanswamy. Newly submitted claims 27 and 28 are directed to a gateway device for use with a telecommunication network having at least one access network and a core network connected to the access network by a first interface and at least one terminal device. Independent claim 27 particularly points out that the gateway device is adapted to receive user data directly from the access network by the first interface without being transmitted through the core network, and as such is believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy. Dependent claim 28 is also therefore believed to be further distinguished over Narayanswamy.

Referring now to paragraph 15 of the Official Action, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 3 and 22 are not obvious in view of 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) in view of Narayanswamy. As discussed above, independent claims 1 and 21 have been amended in a manner which is believed to distinguish the present invention over Narayanswamy and therefore dependent claims 2 and 3, which depend from claim 1, and claim 22, which depends from claim 21, are further believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy regardless of the Official notice which the Examiner has taken in paragraph 15 of the Official Action. Furthermore, with regard to claim 22, it is not seen where Narayanswamy suggests that control information can be supplied from a second interface to an access network and subsequently via said first interface together with the user data to the gateway device. This claim is therefore believed to be further distinguished over Narayanswamy.

With regard to paragraph 16 of the Official Action, claim 7 is rejected based on Narayanswamy with official notice that the RTP protocol is well-known and used for real-time speech transmission. Regardless of the Official notice taken by the Examiner, claim 7 is believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy in view of its ultimate dependency from claim 1 which, as discussed above, is believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy.

Similarly, referring to paragraph 17 of the Official Action, it is respectfully submitted that claims 8, 9, 14, 24 and 25 are distinguished over Narayanswamy regardless of the Official notice

taken by the Examiner due to claims 8, 9 and 14 being dependent from claim 1 and claims 24 and 25 being dependent from claim 21; both of these independent claims being distinguished over Narayanswamy.

Similarly with regard to paragraph 18 of the Official Action, claim 12 is believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy regardless of the Official notice taken by the Examiner due to claim 12 being ultimately dependent from claim 1.

Referring to paragraph 19 of the Official Action, claims 15 and 16 are believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy further in view of US patent 5,745,477, Zheng, since claims 15 and 16 are respectively directly or ultimately dependent from claim 1, which is believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy.

Similarly with regard to paragraph 20 of the Official Action, claim 17 is believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy further in view of Zheng due to its ultimate dependency from claim 1.

Finally, referring to paragraph 21 of the Official Action, claim 18 is believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy further in view of admitted prior art which teaches a telecommunication network such as a UMTS network in view of the fact that claim 18 is dependent from claim 1 which is believed to be distinguished over Narayanswamy.

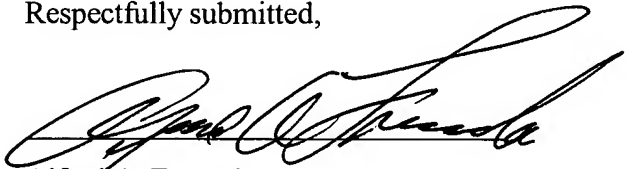
Referring to paragraph 22 of the Official Action, the prior art made of record and not relied upon taken alone or in combination with the previously cited art, is not believed to disclose or suggest the present invention as claimed including independent claims 1, 21 and 27. It is respectfully submitted that none of the prior art made of record at paragraph 22 of the Official Action discloses or claims a telecommunication network having at least one access network, a core network, a first interface connected between the access network and the core network, and at least one terminal device wherein the core network comprises at least one gateway device and at least one access network control device adapted to control the gateway device by transmitting control information to the gateway device, wherein a second interface is connected between the access network control device and the gateway device with control information being transmitted from the access network control device to the gateway device by the second interface and further wherein the telecommunication network is adapted to route user data directly, without being transmitted through

the access network control device, between the access network and the gateway device via the first interface. The prior art made of record at paragraph 22 also does not disclose or suggest the corresponding method for routing user data via an access network to a gateway device of a core network connected to the access network by a first interface and further having at least one access network control device and a second interface connected between the access network control device and the gateway device, comprising the steps of controlling the gateway device by transmitting control information from the access network control device to the gateway device via the second interface and routing user data directly, without being transmitted through the access network control device, between the access network and the gateway device via the first interface. As such, claim 21 is also believed to be distinguished over the prior art made of record at paragraph 22 of the Official Action. Similarly, newly submitted claims 27 and 28 are believed to be distinguished over the prior art made of record and not relied upon as identified at paragraph 22 of the Official Action.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

Figure 2 has been amended per the attached replacement sheet. The amendment to Figure 2 is shown in a copy of this replacement sheet highlighted to show the amendment.

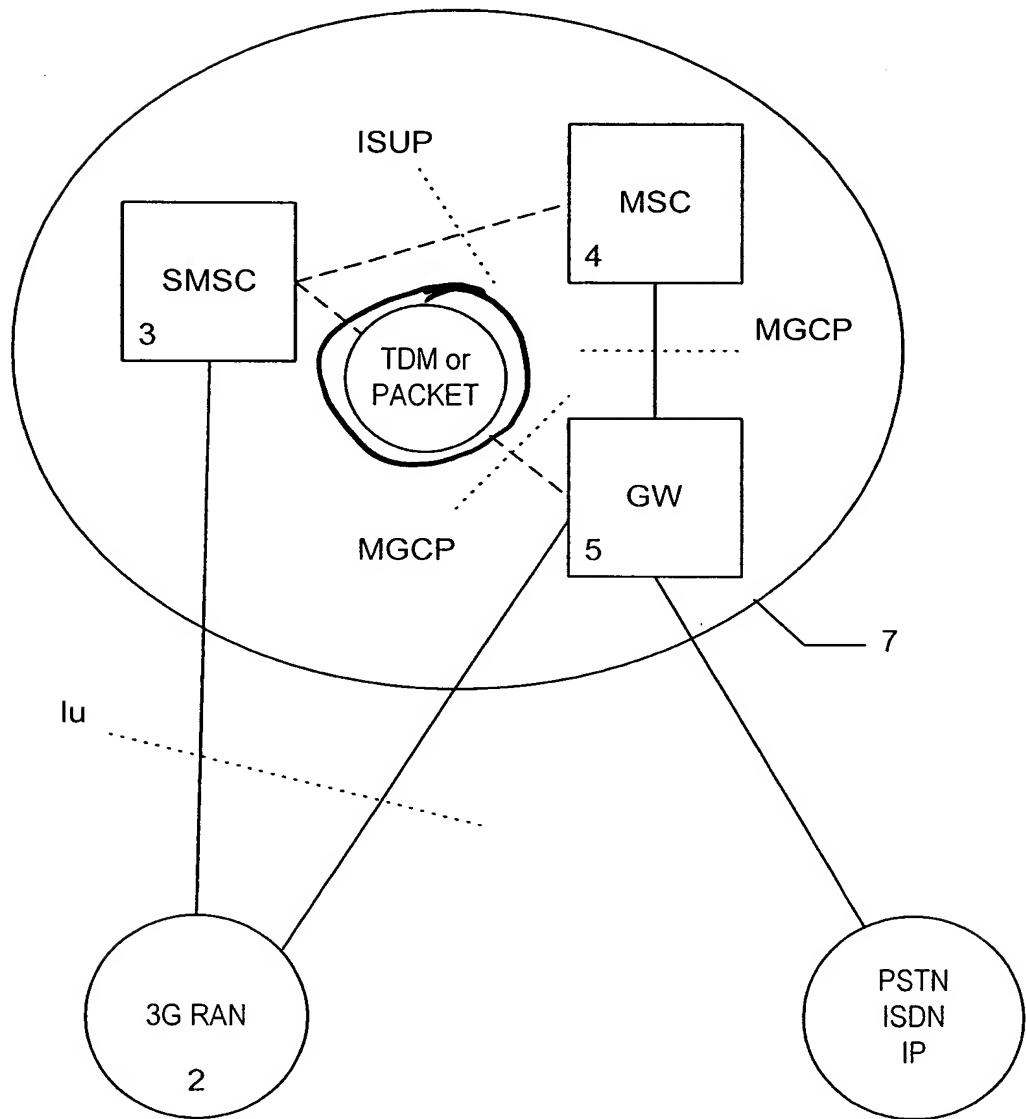


Fig. 2